

*Who is responsible: All IDEA/Part C System Personnel, IDEA/Part C State Office*

## Requirements for Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD)

All IDEA/Part C System Personnel must meet the state and federal requirements for the Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD) under IDEA/Part C. The goal of South Carolina's CSPD is to implement a system of professional development that impacts initial preparation (pre-service) and ongoing education and learning (in-service), and that results in IDEA/Part C system personnel who are highly effective in supporting the development and outcomes of every young child and family. This includes knowledge, skills, and application of knowledge in practice, related to the Early Childhood Outcomes, early intervention core competencies, and evidence-based practices in working with families, teams, and infants and toddlers age birth to three with disabilities across all personnel.

IDEA/Part C requires each state's early intervention system to have a comprehensive system of personnel development that is consistent with any State-approved or State-recognized certification, licensing, registration, or other comparable requirements that applies to the profession, discipline, or area in which personnel are providing early intervention services. Specific federal requirements for CSPD include the following:

- Training of paraprofessionals and the training of primary referral sources with respect to the basic components of early intervention services.
- Implementing innovative strategies and activities for the recruitment and retention of Early Intervention Service (EIS) providers.
- Promoting the preparation of EIS providers who are fully and appropriately qualified to provide early intervention services.
- Training personnel to coordinate transition services for infants and toddlers.
- Training personnel to work in rural and inner-city areas.
- Training personnel in the emotional and social development of young children.

## IDEA/Part C System Personnel

All personnel are defined by the role(s) an individual serve(s) in South Carolina's IDEA/Part C early intervention system. These roles include:

- State Office Personnel
- Intake Coordinators
- Program Managers
- Supervisors within participating agencies
- Service Coordinators
- EIS Providers, including Parent-to-Parent support providers

### ***EIS Providers***

EIS providers are defined as personnel who provide services listed on a family and child's Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). EIS Providers include:

- Applied Behavior Analysis Providers
- Audiologists providing evaluation, assessment, and/or auditory verbal therapy
- Counselors
- Registered Dietitians
- Foreign Language Interpreters/Translators
- Intake Coordinators

- Interpreters for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing
- Assistive Technology Providers
- Nurses
- Occupational Therapists and Assistants
- Optometrists and Ophthalmologist
- Orientation and Mobility Specialists
- Parent-to-Parent Support Providers
- Physical Therapists and Assistants
- Physicians
- Psychologists
- Service Coordinators
- Social Workers
- Speech-Language Pathologists & Assistants
- Special Instructors
- Transportation Providers.

## The South Carolina Part C Credential Process: Initial Credential

Attainment of the Part C Credential documents the acquisition of competencies. The following personnel are required to apply for the South Carolina Part C Credential upon contract approval or hire, and to complete CSPD core curriculum in order to fulfill their state and federal CSPD obligations.

- EIS Providers with an approved contract from the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS), IDEA/Part C.
- Intake Coordinators
- Service Coordinators
- Parent-to-Parent Support providers with Family Connection of South Carolina

IDEA/Part C contracts with the Team for Early Childhood Solutions (TECS) to manage the CSPD process in South Carolina. Upon approval of the Credential application, EIS Providers are registered into the learning management system, referred to as TECSBOOK, and assigned to the IDEA/Part C Core Curriculum modules. Professional development activities, training records, and certificates of completion are available to registered users on demand through this system.

New EIS Providers have 90 calendar days from Credential application approval month to successfully complete the Core Curriculum modules. A permanent South Carolina Part C Credential certificate is issued to the user after successful completion. The renewal timeline starts the month the core curriculum modules are completed.

Current IDEA/Part C System Personnel are required to renew their Part C Credential application every two (2) years/24 months with the appropriate documented hours of professional development training. IDEA/Part C defines professional development training as “activities inclusive of those offered by TECS training (face-to-face or online), pre-approved agency in-service training, and pre-approved outside continuing education experiences”. A permanent South Carolina Part C Credential certificate is issued to the professional upon successful completion of renewal requirements.

## The South Carolina Part C Credential Process: Renewal of Credential

Credential Renewal is accomplished by:

- Completion of core curriculum modules.
- Completion of additional professional development activities required by the Lead Agency in order to comply with IDEA/Part C Policies and Procedures.
- Completion of other pre-approved training:

- o EIS providers and other licensed system personnel may be able to submit the modules to their relevant professional association for continuing education credits.
- o System personnel who are considered Licensed Practitioners of the Healing Arts (LPHA) are not required to complete additional hours of training for the Credential if they meet the requirements of their own professional association's continuing education requirements.

## IDEA/Part C TECSBOOK Core Curriculum

The TECSBOOK CSPD Core Curriculum modules include content based on:

- Federal statute and regulations for IDEA/Part C.
- State legislation, policy, and procedures.
- South Carolina's Core Competency Areas for IDEA/Part C System Personnel as established by the Personnel Committee of the State Interagency Coordinating Council.
- The interdisciplinary early intervention competency areas set by the Council for Exceptional Children-Division of Early Childhood.
- Relevant national professional association practices for licensed disciplines (e.g., ASHA, AOTA, APTA, AAP, Nursing, Psychology, and Social Work).
- The IDEA/Part C Performance and Results Indicators.

The core curriculum is designed to be reinforced by effective supervision mechanisms. TECSBOOK is designed according to the following CSPD content standards in order to:

- Provide enhanced support to South Carolina's early intervention system's ability to apply policies and procedures in a manner consistent with current evidence-based practice and scientifically-based research in the following areas:
  - o Meeting the interrelated social or emotional, health, developmental, and educational, early literacy & language needs of eligible children served by IDEA/Part C.
  - o Facilitating children's development and maintenance of positive social relationships; acquisition and use knowledge and skills; and initiation of appropriate action to meet their needs.
  - o Assisting families in knowing their rights, enhancing the development of their children, and in participating fully in the development and implementation of IFSPs;
  - o Meeting the service coordination and service delivery needs of children who are:
    - Involved in substantiated child abuse or neglect,
    - In foster care,
    - Wards of the state,
    - In the transition process, or
    - Identified as affected by illegal substance abuse, or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure; and
- Assist IDEA/Part C System Personnel in meeting the service coordination & service delivery needs of families and children who reside in rural and inner-city areas, on Indian reservations, and who are homeless.

**Appendix A:**

**Appendix B:**

**Appendix C:**

**Appendix D:**

**Appendix E:**

**Appendix F:**

**Appendix G:**

**Appendix H:**

**Appendix I:**